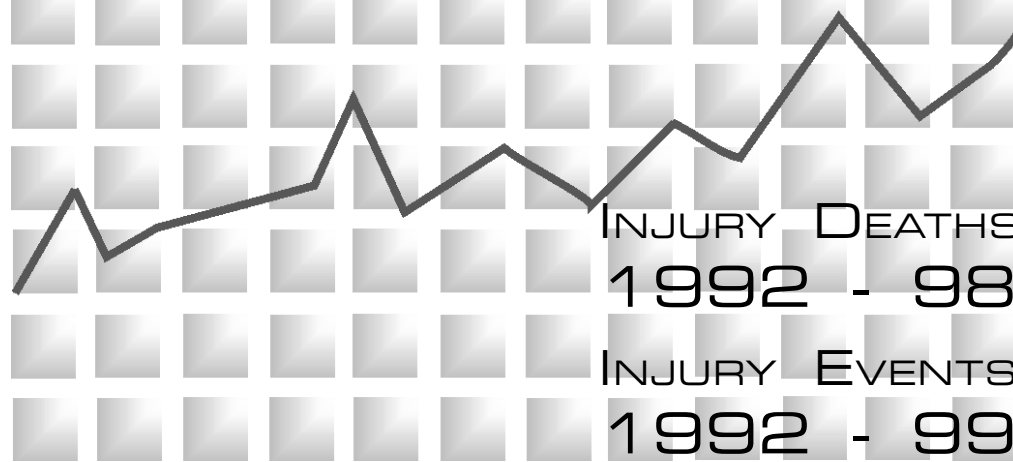


LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

JULY 2001



INJURY SURVEILLANCE REPORT

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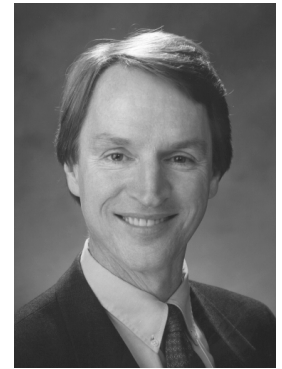
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MAYOR'S COMMENTS



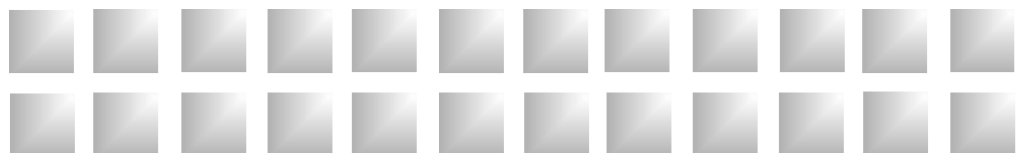
Prevention of unintentional and intentional injury is a public health issue that must be taken seriously by all residents of Lincoln and Lancaster County. As a community we must effectively ensure that our homes, streets, schools and work places are free of risks that could result in injury.

A critical part of effectively addressing the prevention of injuries is the ability to accurately identify the causes and impact of injuries unique to our community. The Injury Surveillance Report provides us with this important assessment information. The information contained in the report is used to monitor the incidence of local injury, to plan prevention efforts and evaluate the effectiveness of our prevention efforts.

Along with the Lincoln-Lancaster County Board of Health, I want to commend the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center, and BryanLGH Medical Center for successful collaboration that made this report a reality.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Wesely".

Don Wesely
Mayor of Lincoln



HEALTH DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) takes great pleasure in presenting this Injury Surveillance Report. Each year more than 95 lives are lost due to injury, and approximately 18,500 injured people are treated in our city's three emergency rooms. Deaths and disease related to injuries are largely preventable. This report covers all injury deaths and injury events that occurred in Lancaster County. All deaths that took place between 1992 and 1998, and all injuries that occurred between 1992 and 1999 are discussed in this report.

The Injury Surveillance Report clearly documents injury as a major public health problem in Lancaster County. One in nine residents sustained an injury that required medical care. Injury was also the leading cause of death among persons aged 1 - 44 years. Interestingly, women were more seriously injured than men. Falls were the leading cause of injury events, whereas motor vehicle traffic was the leading cause of injury deaths. You will see other interesting statistics as you consider this report.

The Injury Prevention Program of LLCHD is committed to reducing and erasing the health impacts of injuries on the residents of our county. I hope this report will prompt you to consider the occurrence of injury and its implications on our community.

Carole A. Douglas, MPH, RN
Acting Health Director

